

Twelve Talk

02.06.19

Issue 122

Meetings 2018-19

*15.01.19

Lecture: "The Mission of Freemasonry" by Bro John Miller IPPGM (Renfrewshire East)

* 05.02.19

Raising

* 19.02.19

Passing

Annual Visitation by PGLRW

Note: Lodge opens at 715pm

* 05.03.19

Passing

* 19.03.19

Raising

*Thursday 28.03.19

Deputation to Lodge The Gael No 609: talk by Bro Iain White PM
HM 609 "No XII and Lodge The Gael – 35 years of friendship"

*02.04.19

Raising

*19.04.19

Mark

* Tuesday 30.04.19

Deputation to Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 to confer Mark Degree

* Thursday 06.06.19

Summer Meeting: Entering by No XII PMs – Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM in the Chair

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock
Regular Meetings – 7.30pm 1st and 3rd Tuesdays – September to April
Summer Meeting – 1st Thursday in June
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro J Robert Crossan 22 Dungourney Drive Greenock PA16 7UW (07788923074)
Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay PA18 6DX (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

The Summer Meeting Thursday 6th June Entering by the Past Masters

In recent times, the special Summer Meetings have been very popular and successful. I often feel that time flies, and that the older I get, the quicker the flight is. I am just waiting for the sonic boom anytime now as I feel that I'm now aboard Concorde! This was brought home to me when I was thinking about the Summer Meetings and realised that the first one was held as long ago as 2012. The initial one was held to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. That was a memorable evening of songs, stories and the Saloon was bedecked in red, white and blue to mark the occasion.

The last few have involved the Past Masters of the Lodge conferring an Entering and thus it will be on Thursday. RWM Bro Bob Crossan asked Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM, our Lodge Secretary, to take the Chair this year and put the team together. The big evening is almost upon us! Of course, Bro Ken was RW Master between 2007 and 2009 and has been doing a sterling job as our Lodge Secretary since soon after he vacated the Chair.

The Degree Team is

RWM - Bro Ken MacDougall PM
WSW - Bro KK Morrison PM
WJW - Bro Alistair Glenly PM
SD - Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM
JD - Bro Allan T Glen IPM
IG - Bro Bob Bain PM

The Floor Workers are

Prayer - Bro Hector Macphail PM
Obligation - Bro Ken MacDougall PM
Secrets - Bro Alan Beck PM
Apron/Badge - Bro KK Morrison PM
NEC - Bro Bob Bain PM
Tools - Bro Allan MacFeate PM
Tracing Board - Bro Iain White PM
Charge - Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM

I know that the Past Masters are looking forward to the occasion.

The Candidate is Mr Paul James Branchfield.

Past Masters' Dinner Friday 14th June 2019

Bro. Alan D. Beck PM has organised the second Annual No. XII Past Masters' Dinner. It will be held in the Tontine Hotel on Friday 14th June at 730 pm.

I was wondering what the collective noun for Past Masters would be? Any suggestions would be welcome but please do your best to keep them polite!!



Bro Henry Sebbon Tibbles PM 4th November 1919 – 11th April 2019

We were all greatly saddened with the news that Bro Henry Sebbon Tibbles PM had passed to the Grand Lodge Above on the morning on Sunday 14th April just over 6 months before what would have been his 100th birthday. Bro. Henry had been on his own since 2015 when he lost his beloved wife Muriel and things were not quite the same for him from then. He had been in No. XII for just under 77 years! The piece below was published on the occasion of Bro. Henry's Platinum Jubilee in 2012 when he attended the Annual Divine Service on 4th December to receive his Diploma.

Henry Sebbon Tibbles is a remarkable character in many ways and a very special gentleman. He was 70 years a member of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII on 10th November 2012 and receives his Platinum Jubilee Diploma at the Lodge Annual Divine Service in the Town Hall this evening.

Born on 4th November 1919 in Minster, by Sheerness (Kent), he took his first degree during the Second World War on 10th November 1942. At that time, he was in the Royal Navy and stationed locally. He spent all of the war years in the Navy, marrying Gourock girl Muriel along the way. They have now been together for over 70 years. When Henry returned to civvy street, the printing trade beckoned, and he rose to the position of Company Director. Unfortunately for No XII, promotion took Henry to London, but XII's loss was The Scots' Lodge's gain and he joined No 2319 (English Constitution) on 24th April 1969. Henry's enthusiasm led him to be installed as Worshipful Master of The Scots' Lodge in 1980. At this time, he brought a deputation up to the Town Hall when Bro Kenneth K Morrison was Master of No XII and very strong links between the two Lodges began to develop. These have been further cemented over the years by visitations to Greenock and London.

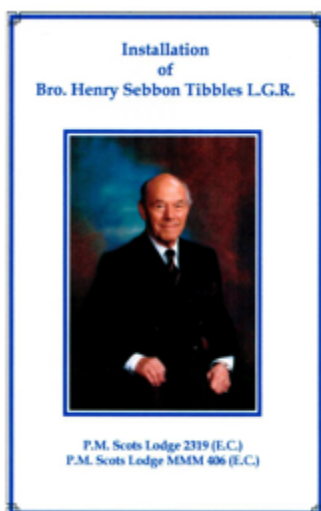
Henry has held many senior positions in the craft and amongst these are the following: London Grand Rank (1989), Worshipful Master of Scots' Mark Master Masons Lodge No 406 (EC) (1984), Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England (1987), President of the Board of Grand Stewards (1987), Commander of the Scots' Lodge Royal Ark Mariners No 406 (EC) (1994), Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank (1999) Honorary Provincial Grand Senior Warden of Renfrewshire West (2003) and membership of many other Masonic Orders. He is well respected by the brethren of the Scottish and English constitutions, but by none more so than those here in his Mother Lodge.

After Henry's retirement and return to Scotland, No XII was delighted to welcome him back on a regular basis. His great dedication to the Craft led him to perform a number of duties to help No XII, for example filling the offices of Tyler, Treasurer, Worshipful Junior Warden and Worshipful Senior Warden. He assumed the chair of his Mother Lodge for the first time in 2001, aged 82 years and 16 days. Henry was awarded Distinguished Service Membership by No XII in 1990, received his 50 Year Jubilee Diploma in 1992 and his Diamond Jubilee Diploma 10 years later.

To-night we honour him for his 70 years' membership of No XII and extend to him our appreciation and sincere thanks for his immense contribution over the years.

Bro. Henry was generous in kind and in spirit and a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. The Grand Lodge Above is enriched by his presence.

At his funeral service in Greenock Crematorium on Thursday 25th April, the Lodge was well represented as was the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West and the Sister Lodges. RW Master Bro. Bob Crossan laid a sprig of acacia on the coffin of our dear, departed Brother.



Installation 2001 and with Bro Alan D. Beck RWM at The presentation of his Platinum Diploma in 2012.



Deputation to Lodge Burns Dundonald No. 1759 Tuesday 30th April Mark Degree

I am grateful to RW Master Bro Bob Crossan for the following

No XII was invited to confer a Fellowcraft Degree at Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 on Tuesday 30th April by their RWM Bro John McNish. Of course, we accepted their kind invitation. About a month before the date for our visit, I received a phone call from Bro John to ask if it would be possible to change the degree for the evening to a Mark. After checking with our Brethren, we decided this was okay. Our own Mark Degree was actually two weeks before our visit, so this would be a good practice run.

So, the 30th April arrived before we knew it and off we went on our sojourn to Dundonald. As you would expect, we were given a really warm welcome from all the brethren of Lodge Burns Dundonald and their visitors for the evening, of which there were plenty, about 75 Brethren being present at the meeting.

After changing halls to accommodate the large crowd the meeting started. We remained outside as were we to be admitted as a Deputation. After about 20 mins, we were called for and duly led into the Lodge room. After the usual formalities the Gavel was presented to me by RWM Bro John McNish, for which I thanked him in the usual manner and we then proceeded to confer the Mark Degree on their candidate. I must admit it was a very fine rendition of the Mark with everyone being at the top of their game on the evening, just as they were two weeks before in our own Lodge. I then presented their RWM with the Gavel and he thanked me, and all from No XII, for such a fine degree. After the collection was uplifted we were asked if we would like to retire from the Lodge and we duly did and immediately received kind lodge hospitality. Thank you to everyone who made the journey down to Dundonald for what I would call a very enjoyable night.



The Dundonald Deputation

From left: Bros Alan D Beck PM, Scott A Branchfield, KK Morrison PM, Alex Gray, Allan I MacFeate PM, James P Livingstone PM IPPGM, Brian Mc Fadyen PM WSW, Ken MacDougall PM, Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bob Crossan RWM, Fraser Cameron, Bob Bain PM, Campbell Snoddy, Alistair Glenney PM and Edward Molloy

Annual Homes Degree Thursday 25th April 2019

Again, I am grateful to RWM Bro Bob Crossan for the following

Congratulations to Brother Eric Sweeney, RW Master of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 who was in charge of the Masters of the Province who conferred an excellent Fellowcraft Degree at Lodge Sir Michael No 989. The newly refurbished Temple was packed to capacity for the annual "Homes" Degree in aid of the residents of Marcus Humphrey House with the event raising a record £1,000.

Well done to all involved!

I was taking part on the night as WJW and I also had the pleasure of presenting the Second Degree tools. It was a great night and a very worthy cause.



RWPGM Bro. Robin McIntyre and the Masters of the Province who took part.

Annual Bowling Challenge Match No XII vs 1121

And finally, from the RWM ...

Once again, we were blessed with perfect conditions to try to retain the trophy in the annual bowling match against Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121. Firstly, thank you to all who turned up to play for both teams, even the 'ringers'. We had 3 rinks of 4v4 with 2 bowls each. On rink No 1 we had David Stevenson, me (RWM Bob), 'ringer' Ricky Kennedy and Kenny Morrison (skip). We could not have started worse with us being 6-0 down after 3 ends. We managed to pick ourselves up a bit and went into the half time (6 ends) 7-4 down. After a light refreshment or three we got back to the business at hand.



Despite our much improved second half we found ourselves 4 down going into not just the last end but the very last bowl with 1121 lying shot. Sammy Hunter was playing his usual brilliant shots and his team mates (RWM John Laird, WSW Ian Hair and Tommy McDougall) also playing well. Anyhow, back to this last bowl that Kenny Morrison had, with 1121 lying shot, we waited with bated breath, about to experiencing a five shot gubbing, so Kenny called on his vast experience and for the first time on the day showed us what he is really capable of. He rolled the bowl, it's looking good, no it's looking great, oh no it's looking magnificent, he's carried the jack through the back and we won the last end by 4 shots, with an unbelievable shot from our skip. We managed a draw, superb....

On the other two rinks, we managed to win one by 3 shots but in the other game we were beaten by 7 shots, which meant that 1121 were to be crowned champions for 2019.

We once again had a wonderful day with our Brethren from 1121 and from various other Lodges. Congratulations to all at 1121 and to everyone who participated to make the day special. A huge thanks to Bro. Alistair Glennie PM for coming along and taking photos.

Monthly Draw

I have this from our Treasurer, Bro. David Stevenson.

Already there are now 51 numbers taken up for the 2019 Draw. Bro David would be pleased to receive further enquiries about taking part. It all helps towards making the Lodge Tercentenary special in 2028. In particular, it would be great to see more of our newer members involved. You can set up a standing order and the £1 a month from your account wouldn't be noticed! Bro David will help with details.

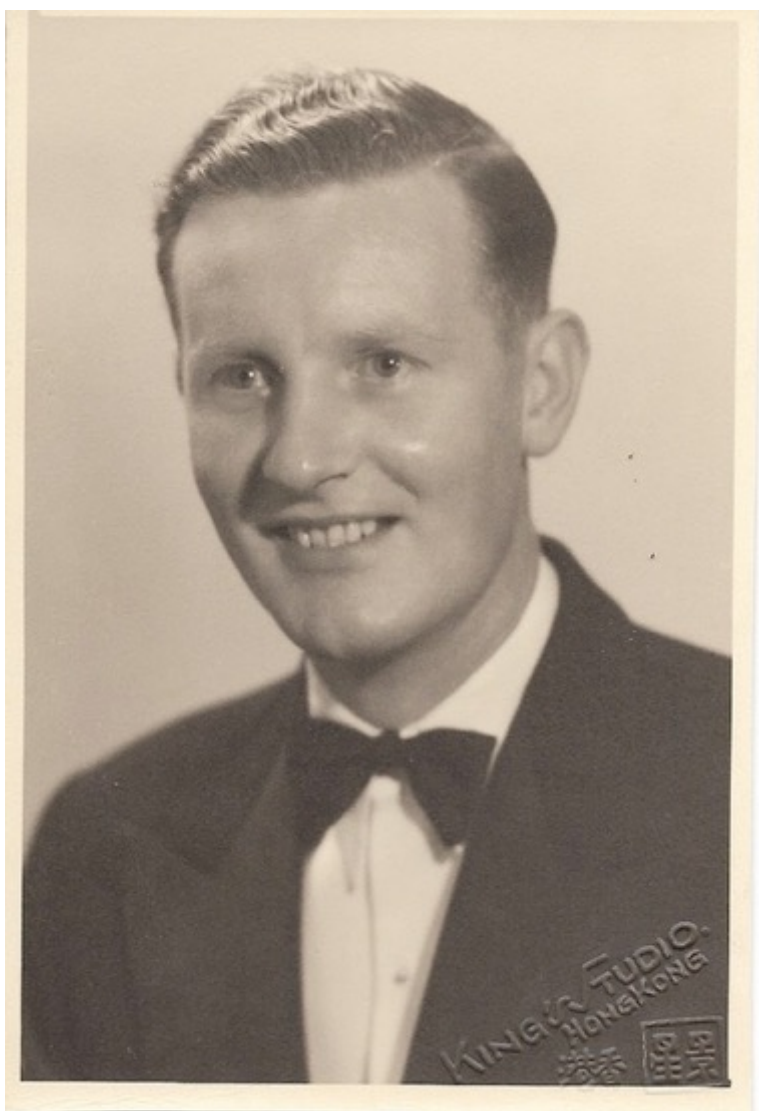
The April Draw was won by Bro. Iain White PM. The May and June draws will be made at the Summer Meeting on Thursday.

Test and Capitation Fees

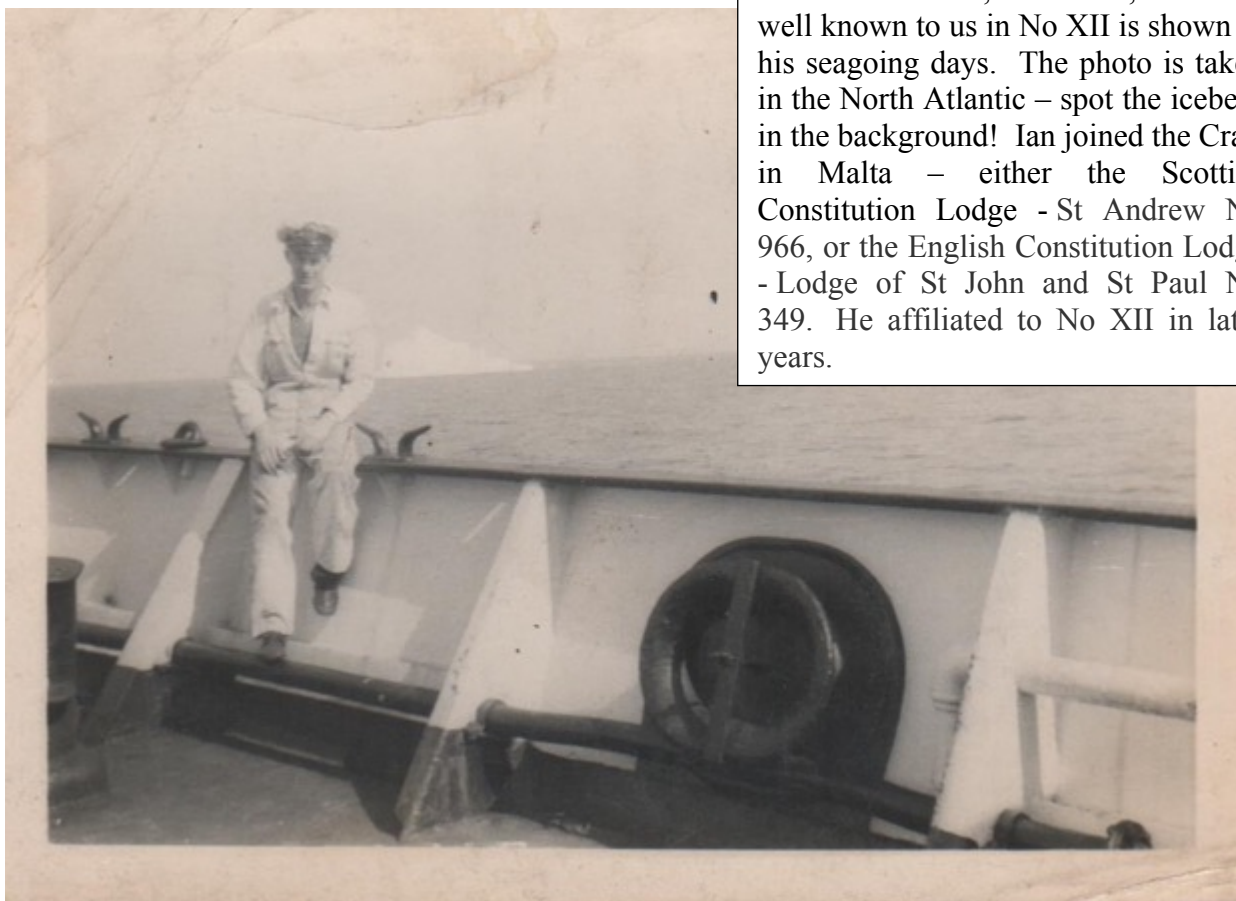
Test Fees are now overdue and are £40; **Capitation Fees** are £35 for Life Members (at their discretion). These fees may both be paid by a number of means – please see our Treasurer Bro David Stevenson for details.

The Way We Were – The Grants

I am still working on the feature on the late Bros. Grant (Stewart and Ian) who were members of No. XII and were lived in the Bow Road opposite our Bros. Glenney. As I said in the last edition, it all began some time ago when Stewart's son Keith contacted Lodge Secretary Bro. Ken MacDougall PM and I am now involved in a flurry of emails with the Grant family. I am now in contact with another Grant – Euan – who is a cousin of Keith, Calum and Ian. Just to whet your appetite, a couple of photos ...



Bro Stewart Grant, Initiated into Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII on 18th April 1944. This photo was taken after he had moved to Hong Kong. He worked there as a joiner in the Taikoo Dockyard. He became Worshipful Master of Cathay Lodge No. 4373 E.C. in 1962/63.



Stewart's brother, Ian Grant, who was well known to us in No XII is shown in his seagoing days. The photo is taken in the North Atlantic – spot the iceberg in the background! Ian joined the Craft in Malta – either the Scottish Constitution Lodge - St Andrew No 966, or the English Constitution Lodge - Lodge of St John and St Paul No 349. He affiliated to No XII in later years.

From the Old Minute Books The Mark Degree 1920

It was previous degree in April was the Mark. It was gratifying to see a number of candidates. The Mark in 1920 was a little different ...

Tuesday 21st May 1920

Bro John D Macpherson, RW Master, in the Chair

The Mark Degree was conferred upon 85 Brethren, 81 of whom were members of this Lodge

Presentations

After the lodge was closed in due and ancient form, the Brethren adjourned to the Town Hall.

A toast list was submitted by the RW Master, an interesting part of which was the presentation by the Lodge to Bro. Robert Thexton IPM of a divan easy chair, and a gold wristlet watch for Miss Barbara Thexton.

At a later part of the evening, Bro. RL Scott PM offered the congratulations of the Lodge to the RW Master on his marriage and presented him with a Sheraton Clock together with fruit stands and a case of silver spoons for Mrs. Macpherson.

The 2019 candidate total of 5 from No XII and 1 from a Sister Lodge pales into insignificance compared to the 85 who took the Degree in 1920. Interest in Freemasonry was very high in the wake of The Great War.

John Adamson Trophy Greenock Wanderers RFC Presentation 2019

The Lodge has had links with Greenock Wanderers over the years, with coaches, players and former players often being members of No XII. Bro John Adamson, who joined No XII in 1951 aged 34 and a Detective Constable, and was Right Worshipful Master in 1966 – 68, was an enthusiastic Wanderer. He passed to the Grand Lodge Above in April 2004 and No XII donated a Trophy to Greenock Wanderers in John's memory to be competed for on an annual basis. The photo below shows the young recipients for 2019 receiving the Trophy from Bro. Allan I. MacFeate PM at the family day on Sunday 5th May.



Lapel Badges

For many years, the late Bro Henry S Tibbles PM sold anniversary lapel badges in aid of the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund through the West Column, the monthly newsletter of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. Recently, he passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *XII Talk*. This will now be a regular feature.



Lapel Badges for 25, 40, and 50 years' service are available at a cost of £5.50 each. A special "gem" set badge for 60 years is also available at £10. **All prices are excluding postage.** For every badge sold, £2 will be donated to the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund. All cheques should be made out to *David Stevenson*

Badges, may be purchased individually by qualified Brethren, or in bulk by Lodges who may wish to make presentations to deserving Brethren, for meritorious service. All enquiries and orders to treasurno12@aol.com. Please make cheques payable to *David Stevenson*.



Grumpy Past Masters badges are also now available from David at a cost of £5.50 each, excluding postage.

Iain White PM
02.06.19

Views expressed by individuals within *Twelve Talk* do not necessarily represent the views of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII. Unless otherwise stated, Bro Iain White PM is the author of all material.